App. F. IX-4

Previous References

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General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial Nos. 52

Part B for July 32

SUBJECT:

Correspondence with Sir Akbar Hydari and Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari about the proposed increase in the strength of the Federal Assembly

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According to the recommendations of the Federal Structure Committee the Upper House is to consist of 200 members of whom 40% or 80 members are to be the representatives of the States. The Lower House will consist of 300 members, the States' quota of representation being 100 or 33 1/3 per cent of the total number of members. At a joint sitting of the two Houses the composition of the members would be as follows:—

	Br Indian Members	States' Delegates
Upper House —	120	80
Lower House —	200	100
	320	180.

The proportion would thus be 16:9

When the question of the powers of both the Houses was being discussed in the F.S. Committee Sir Akbar Hydari inclined to the view that differences between the two Houses with regard to Money Bills should be resolved in a joint session of the full strength of the two Houses by a bare majority (Proceedings Page 257). As regards the composition of both the Houses he endorsed the Maharaja of Bikanir that in the Upper House the States should have representation on a 50/50 basis and in the Lower House on a 33 1/3 : 66 2/3 basis, the composition at a joint sitting would be as follows on this basis:—

	Br India	States
Upper House	100	100
Lower House	200	100
	300.	200

The proportion would have been 3:2, and as only a bare majority was required for a decision it would have been possible for the British Indian Delegates to carry any measure by voting as a block as against the States' representatives.

The Franchise Committee recom

"That the numbers of seats in the Federal Assembly should be increased so as to allot to British India 300 seats instead of 200, thus reducing the average area of the Constituency by one third" (Para 405). This recommendation does not affect the proportion of 33 1/3 per cent recommended by the Federal Structure Committee. The States' quota of representation would be correspondingly increased, and it would be 150. At a joint sitting there would be ——

	Br India	States.
Upper House —	120	80.
Lower House —	300	150.
	420 ;	230 members.

The proportion ~~is not the same~~ though not identical with the one recommended by the Federal Structure Committee, is still approximate to it.

With 150 seats in the Lower House it is possible for many smaller States to obtain individual representation.

It is submitted that the recommendation of the Franchise Committee does not call for any protest by the States, but that they should insist on the proportion recommended by the F.S. Committee being maintained.

Submitted to His Highness.

One of the important recommendations of the Indian Franchise Committee has been the increase they have proposed in the strength of the Federal Assembly to secure a higher quota of representation both to British India and the States and to provide for certain special interests. This proposal has not found favour with the Hyderabad Delegation, on whose behalf Sir Akbar Hydari wrote to me asking if Mysore would join them in entering a protest against the recommendation of the Franchise Committee. Mr. V.T. Krishnamachari, Dewan of Baroda, also wrote to me similarly asking for our views on the question. I have informed them that, for the reasons mentioned in my letter, a protest at this stage would not serve a useful purpose, and that it would be advisable to wait for a more suitable opportunity to make known our views. I submit the correspondence for His Highness's gracious perusal.

Mirza M. Ismail

Bangalore,
2nd August 1932.

D E W A N.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Correspondence with Sir Akbar Hydari and Mr. V.T. Krishnamachari anent the proposed increase in the strength of the Federal Assembly.

73

Order.

KRW
5/8/32

C. Ray
M
5-8-32

AM 5/8/32

H.D. 65

General and Revenue Secretariat.

MP 85-31-52

Correspondence with Sir Akbar Hydari and Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari about the proposed increase in the Strength of the Federal Assembly.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/after issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

....Department.

870/6/8

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 2/8/32

12-51/8/8

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 8/8/32

NOTE.—Contn. sheet

8/8/32

FINANCE

20th July 1932.

Dear Mirza

I have been asked by my Colleagues of the Hyderabad Delegation to ascertain from you and Krishnamachari as representatives of the bigger States on the Consultative Committee, whether you share our view that the Federal Lower House should not be increased beyond the total of 300 and that in this respect we should enter a protest against the increase by the Lothian Committee of the British Indian portion to 300 especially when there was no representative of the Indian States on that ~~Lothian~~ Committee.

Okay
M
24-7-32

Yours Sincerely
Akbar

My dear ~~Sir Akbar~~ Hydari,

Your letter of July 20, 1932, with regard to the proposal of the Lothian Committee to increase the number of British India ~~States~~ delegates in the Federal Assembly to 300. You suggest that the bigger States should lodge a protest against the proposal.

I am personally in favour of a smaller Chamber of 300 members, inclusive of representatives of the States, but I am prepared to go up to 360, the States' share being 120 members.

The Lothian Committee must have considered all aspects of the problem, and having regard to the necessity of providing for certain special interests, they have evidently felt it necessary to increase the strength to the figure they have recommended.

I do not think that a protest from us at this stage would serve a useful purpose. I propose to wait for a more suitable opportunity for making known our views. We shall no doubt be asked to express our views on this, as in several other matters, before decisions are made by the British Government.

Yours sincerely,

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
28. JUL 1932

Dear Mr.Krishnamachari,

Thank you for your letter dated the 24th July 1932 asking for my views on Sir Akbar Hydari's letter about the strength of the Lower Chamber. I have also received his letter, and I enclose herewith my reply to it, ~~defining~~ explaining my attitude as regards ~~to his~~ the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

D e w a n .

Rao Banadur
V.T.Krishnamachari, C.I.E.,
Dewan of Baroda, Baroda.

In approval
28/7/32
Dewan)

DEWAN'S OFFICE
2996
27. JUL. 1932

BARODA.

24th July 1932

My dear Sir Mirza,

I dare say you have received Sir Akabar Hydari's letter about the strength of the Lower Chamber. What attitude do you propose to adopt ?.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

V. T. Krishnamachari

C. Dept
27-7-32
27/7/32

DEWAN OF MYSORE

PUBLIC OFFICES,
BANGALORE.

No. 432 | Genl:1

29th July 1932.

My dear Krishnamachiar

Thank you for your letter dated the 24th July 1932 asking for my views on Sir Akbar Hydari's letter about the strength of the Lower Chamber. I have also ~~received his letter~~ hear from him, and I enclose herewith my reply to it, explaining my attitude as regards the proposal of the Lothian Committee.

Yours Sincerely.

Sd. M. M. I.

Draft.

Issued
29-7-32

29/7/32

DEWAN OF MYSORE

Bangalore,

29th July 1932.

No. 431.

My dear Sydari

Regarding

Your letter of July 20, 1932, with ~~regard~~ to the proposal of the Lothian Committee to increase the number of British India seats in the Federal Assembly to 300. You suggest that the bigger States should lodge a protest against the proposal.

I am personally in favour of a smaller Chamber of 300 members, inclusive of representatives of the States, but I am prepared to go up to 360, the States' share being 120 members.

The Lothian Committee must have considered all aspects of the problem, and having regard to the necessity of providing for certain special interests, they have evidently felt it necessary to increase the strength to the figure they have recommended.

I do not think that a protest from us at this stage would serve a useful purpose. I propose to wait for a more suitable opportunity for making known our views. We shall no doubt be asked to express our views on this, as in several other matters, before decisions are ~~made~~ reached (or the papers withdrawn) by the British Government.

Y. S.

Sd. M. M. D

Draft approved by Dewan.

Typed well 29.7.32

MM 29/7/32

My dear Sir Akbar,

I have received your letter dated 20th July 1932 on the proposal of the Lothian Committee to increase the number of British India seats in the Federal Assembly to 300, If the States' allotment of seats is also to be raised proportionately, as appears to be the intention, I do not see why we should object to the proposal. We must of course see that the majority required for passing a measure at a joint session is so fixed as not to place the States at a disadvantage. But this is an open question and we can tackle it at the proper time. I do not think it advisable for us to protest against the Committee's proposal, which seems to be in accord with the wishes of British India and will secure the ~~percentage~~ privilege of individual representation to a larger number of minor states, without prejudicing the interests of the bigger states.

Yours sincerely,

Sub for approval
27/7/32
Dewan)

Sir Akbar Hyderi Kt.,
Financial Member, Executive Council,
Hyderabad.